

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

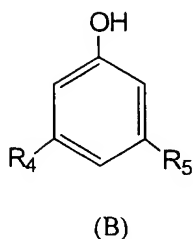
Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-33 (Cancelled).

Claims 34-65 (Cancelled).

Claim 66 (Previously Presented): Electrodes (anodes and cathodes) consisting of catalysts and a suitable conductive support, wherein the catalysts consist of metal complexes consisting of a polymer and a metal salt, wherein the metal is reduced either in the solid state with H<sub>2</sub> or in fluid solution systems with appropriate reducing agents, and wherein the polymer is a nitrogen-oxygen-carbon polymer obtained by condensation of a 4-{1-[(2,4-di(substituted)-phenyl)-hydrazono]-alkyl}-benzene-1,3-diol with a phenol or a 3- substituted phenol or a 3,5-disubstituted phenol and formaldehyde or paraformaldehyde in the presence of either a basic (e.g. NaOH) or acid (e.g. HCl) catalyst in water/alcohol mixtures as solvent and at a temperature between 20-150°C and having an average molecular

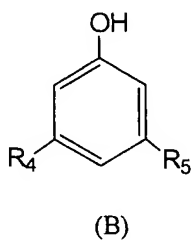
weight between 1000 and 50000, wherein the 3,5-disubstituted phenol is a compound of formula (B):



wherein  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  each independently represent an electron-donating group selected in the group consisting of ether, amines, aryl and linear and branched alkyl groups, having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms.

Claim 67 (Previously Presented): Anodes consisting of catalysts and comprising binary or ternary combinations of Fe, Co and Ni and a suitable conductive support, wherein the catalysts consist of metal complexes consisting of a polymer and a metal salt, wherein the metal is reduced either in the solid state with  $H_2$  or in fluid solution systems with appropriate reducing agents, and wherein the polymer is a nitrogen-oxygen-carbon polymer obtained by condensation of a 4-{1-[(2,4-di(substituted)-phenyl)-hydrazono]-alkyl}-benzene-1,3-diol with a phenol or a 3-

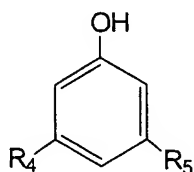
substituted phenol or a 3,5-disubstituted phenol and formaldehyde or paraformaldehyde in the presence of either a basic (e.g. NaOH) or acid (e.g. HCl) catalyst in water/alcohol mixtures as solvent and at a temperature between 20-150°C and having an average molecular weight between 1000 and 50000, wherein the 3,5-disubstituted phenol is a compound of formula (B):



wherein R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> each independently represent an electron-donating group selected in the group consisting of ether, amines, aryl and linear and branched alkyl groups, having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms.

Claim 68 (Previously Presented): Cathodes consisting of catalysts and comprising Ni or Co and a suitable conductive support, wherein the catalysts consist of metal complexes consisting of a polymer and a metal salt, wherein the metal is reduced either in the solid state with H<sub>2</sub> or in fluid solution

systems with appropriate reducing agents, and wherein the polymer is a nitrogen-oxygen-carbon polymer obtained by condensation of a 4-{1-[(2,4-di(substituted)-phenyl)-hydrazono]-alkyl}-benzene-1,3-diol with a phenol or a 3- substituted phenol or a 3,5-disubstituted phenol and formaldehyde or paraformaldehyde in the presence of either a basic (e.g. NaOH) or acid (e.g. HCl) catalyst in water/alcohol mixtures as solvent and at a temperature between 20-150°C and having an average molecular weight between 1000 and 50000, wherein the 3,5-disubstituted phenol is a compound of formula (B):



(B)

wherein  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  each independently represent an electron-donating group selected in the group consisting of ether, amines, aryl and linear and branched alkyl groups, having from 1 to 15 carbon atoms.